Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 2, 3, and 6 is therefore respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 2-5, and 7-9 is therefore respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claim 9 is therefore respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ivar M. Kaardal